



— CITY OF TRURO. —

MEDICAL OFFICER'S
REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1896.

TRURO :
LAKE & LAKE, LTD., PRINTERS, PRINCES STREET.

1897

TRURO,

12th February, 1897.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my report to you for the year 1896, and am glad to say that the year has been a very healthy one, especially the last six months of it, when the death-rate fell for that period to 13·89 per 1000 per annum. In fact, in the last four months, the death-rate in the two parishes of St. Mary and St. Paul, was only 8·04 per 1000 per annum.

The deaths during the year amounted to 167—males, 76 ; females, 91.

In the ten years 1880-1889, the average was 206·7—in the six years 1890-1895, it was 203·5.

The death-rate for 1896, was 15·00 per 1000 per annum.

„ Six years 1890-1895, was 18·28 per 1000 per annum.

„ Ten years 1880-1889, was 18·56 „

In the year thirteen persons died from the seven principal zymotic diseases, giving a death-rate of 1·16 per 1000 per annum.

For the six years 1890-1895, it was 1·75 per 1000 per annum.

For the ten years 1880-1889, it was 1·05 „

Causes of Death—diphtheria 1, scarlet fever 1, whooping cough 5, diarrhœa (infantile) 6, phthisis 10, pulmonary diseases 33, heart disease 15, cancer 9, accidents 2, and other causes 85.

During the year nine inquests were held.

With regard to age at death, the annexed tables show that

Under one year of age ... 36 died.

Between one and five years 16 „

„ five and sixty-five „ 53 „

And over sixty-five „ 62 „

of whom 22 were above 80 years old. The greatest age attained at death was 91 years. Of the infants' deaths 8 were attributed to debility or premature birth. The number of deaths under one year gives a proportion of 136 to 1000 births. It is perhaps worth notice that in November nine persons died, and that, excluding one case of consumption, the average age reached by the remaining 8 amounted to 75 years.

The census for 1891 gives for this Urban District, a population of 11,131, thus divided into parishes ; the table shows the incidence of mortality in each.

	Inhabited Houses.	Population.	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1000 per annum.	Average Death-rate per 1000 per annum 1890-1895.	Average Death-rate per 1000 per annum, 1880-1889.
Kenwyn ...	1,146	5,473	79	14·45	16·54	18·38
St. Mary ...	505	2,500	43	17·20	19·65	23·00
St. Paul ...	635	3,158	41	12·98	17·20	17·46

The births numbered ... 263—males, 130 ; females, 133.

The birth-rate for the year was 23·6 per 1000 per annum.

„ for the six years 1890-1895 was 25·96 per 1000 per annum.

„ for the ten years 1880-1889 „ 27·68 „

Infectious Diseases Notification Act.

During the year I have received 34 notices

Diphtheria ...	2	..	average of six years 1890-1895	3·6
Scarlet Fever ...	13	..	„	15·6
Typhoid Fever ...	9	..	„	13·6
Erysipelas ...	8	..	„	21·3
Small Pox ...	2	..	„	„
Puerperal Fever ...	„	..	„	1·1

This table shows that the number of cases during the year of each notifiable disease has fallen below the average of the previous years during which this act has been in operation.

Diphtheria. On October 5th, two cases of this disease were notified. The children had returned a few days previously from Louth in Lincolnshire, and one of them had shown slight symptoms on the night of their arrival (September 29th). This was a very slight case, but a few days after the brother became ill, and this case proved fatal. The clothing and bedding were burnt, and the house disinfected. I have related the details of these cases as they show the importance of an early recognition of this disease, and the necessity for early isolation of such cases.

Scarlet Fever. Thirteen cases—In March, 2 cases in Kenwyn St. ; May, 2 cases in Broad St. In November, 6 cases—1 Prospect Place, 2 at St. Clement's Terrace, 1 at Union Place, 1 in Castle Street, (fatal, this was the first death from this disease for eleven years), and 1 at Belmont Villas. In December 3 cases—2 in Pydar Street, and 1 in Carclew Street. As for some years past, these cases were generally of a very mild type, and all care possible was taken to isolate and prevent the spread of the disease.

Typhoid Fever. Nine cases, five of them young children. In May, 1 case in Moresk Road; in July 3 cases—1 each at Keel Alley Court, Castle Street, and Lemon Row; in August 2 cases—at Castle Street, and Old Bridge Street; in September, 1 case in the Infirmary; in October, 2 cases—at Calenick Street and Lemon Street. One of them came home ill with this disease, another was clearly due to defective sewerage, and the others were probably due to the same cause. I could not ascertain that either case could be ascribed to either milk or water pollution.

Small-Pox. Two cases. On February 19th, a case of this disease was notified—the patient had returned from South Africa, and had landed at Plymouth on February 4th, a week after became ill and the rash appeared on February 13th. The next day, February 20th, after notification, the patient was removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital, and his wife, who accompanied him was, with the attendants, then immediately re-vaccinated. On March 3rd, the wife developed a very modified Small-pox eruption, and the disease ran a very mild course concurrently with the re-vaccination. The clothing and bedding at Richmond hill were destroyed, and the house thoroughly disinfected.

Diarrhœa. Six deaths in infants, probably chiefly due to improper feeding.

Inspection of District, &c.

I have alone, and with your Inspector, visited at different times many parts of the City. I can confirm what I have stated in my later reports that, with regard to accumulation of refuse, there is now very little to complain of. I have several times called attention to the inefficient way in which very many of the house drains are trapped, to the danger arising from the remaining stone built house drains permitting possible pollution of water supply, and escape of sewer gas, and to the necessity for their being effectively ventilated. I believe that many of the cases of Typhoid Fever are due to the insanitary condition of these house drains. I am glad to find that your Inspector has been directed to make a house to house inspection and record, and I have no doubt a better state of things will result. I am also glad to find that Moyle's Creek is being filled in, this will do away with a great nuisance and a source of danger to the neighbourhood. Last year I suggested in my report the provision of more public lavatories. The Sanitary Authority has ordered three of them to be erected, and I have no doubt they will be found a great convenience. I still think there is need for one more at the site suggested in Campfield hill. Nothing has as yet been done at Carlyon's cottages to improve the Sanitary condition of the dwellings there. Mr. Clemens informs me that during the year, 16 privy pits have been filled in, and that there are not now in the City a dozen left that require attention. About 350 feet of new main sewerage has been laid, and 10 ventilating shafts erected. There are a few short bits of old stone sewerage remaining which require replacing by stoneware pipes. The flushing of the sewers, sometimes with added disinfectants,

has been regularly carried on twice a week during the summer and autumn. I am informed that the condemned insanitary houses in Mitchell hill are to be forthwith demolished.

Hospital for Infectious Diseases. Four cases have been admitted during the year, 2 Small-pox, and 2 Typhoid, all recovered. It is doubtful whether the Local Government Board would, in case of a wide-spread epidemic of Small-pox, sanction the use of this Hospital for this disease. I am glad to find that the pathway by the Hospital is closed.

Scavenging. Very fairly carried out. I have had one or two complaints that house refuse has not been removed with desirable regularity. During this year, 5000 tons of house and other refuse have been removed by the men employed by your Authority.

Lodging Houses. Have been inspected and the regulations laid down are complied with.

Slaughter Houses. Those now in use are only 4 in number, and are kept fairly clean. Nothing has been done to bring them up to the required standard, and I again repeat that it would be a great advantage if they could be removed outside the inhabited part of your district.

Unsound Meat, Fish, &c. No complaint.

Cowsheds, Dairies, &c. These have been visited and a special report sent into you, with one or two exceptions the recommendations have been adopted, and the necessary improvements effected.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act. I see the Chief Constable reports that 17 samples of milk, 2 of coffee, 2 of pepper, 1 of butter, and 1 of lard were taken, and that in consequence 1 person was convicted, and 2 others were cautioned for minor offences.

Housing of Working Classes Act. No advance during the past year that I am aware of.

Overcrowding. Two cases reported, but on investigation the charges were not sustained.

Churchyards and Cemeteries. No different report from former years.

Pollution of Rivers. The serious matter of the construction of the intercepting sewers, and the final disposal of the sewerage, has been in suspense during the past year. I understand the Sanitary Authority is waiting to see the result of the process under trial at Exeter, known as the Septic Tank Process. Should this be proved a success and be sanctioned by the Local Government Board, the adoption of this process here would be much more economical than any plan previously suggested. I must again express a hope that measures will be taken to relieve the inhabitants around the West Bridge from the dangerous nuisances arising from the outfall sewers there during the hot summer months.

Thirty Years retrospect. It has occurred to me that it would be interesting to look back over a period of thirty years, and to see what difference has occurred in the incidence of disease in your district within that period. With this view I have gone through the mortality records, and for the purpose of comparison have divided the time into three decennial periods, you will find from the annexed tables that a vast improvement has taken place. This is doubtless due to more than one cause, but with regard to Typhoid fever, Diarrhoea, and probably Phthisis, the alteration in the mode of sewerage by pipe drains, instead of stone-built ones has had a very decided influence; so also the removal of pig-styes, the abolition of privy pits, and the more regular and systematic removal of organic decaying house refuse, have all had some effect in causing less pollution of air and soil, and greater purity of the water supply. I can quite think that Phthisis has been diminished by better subsoil drainage, but probably chiefly by the less overcrowding than formerly existed. The inhabitants of the City are not much more numerous, but they are spread over a larger area than they were Thirty years ago.

Comparison of the tables referred to is well worth attention. In the aggregate we find that in the consecutive periods of ten years, the deaths fell very considerably in numbers.

From 1866-1875 they numbered 2411, of which 449 were from zymotic diseases.

The average annual death-rate was therefore 22.11 per 1000, and the annual zymotic death rate 4.11 per 1000.

From 1876-1885, they numbered 2189, of which 289 were from zymotic diseases.

The average annual death-rate was 20.62 per 1000.
and the zymotic " " 2.72 "

From 1886-1895 they numbered 1977, of which 151 were from zymotic diseases.

The average annual death rate was therefore 17.76 per 1000.
and the zymotic " " 1.35 "

From the tables you will notice that each of the zymotic diseases has decreased in fatality with the exception of whooping cough, which has remained pretty much the same throughout the time. I must, however, particularly call your attention to the combined fever and diarrhoea statistics, the diseases probably generally due to defective sanitation. In the ten years 1866-1875 they together were the cause of 196 deaths. In the next ten years 1876-1885, of 113 deaths; in the last decennium, 1886-1895, of 67 deaths; so that concurrently with the sanitary improvements, carried out under your Authority, the death-rate from these diseases has progressively diminished. The record of deaths from Phthisis (consumption) shows a similar progressive decline. In the first period 1866-1875, 268 persons died from this disease; in the next, 1876-1885, 232 died; and in the last, 1886-1895, only 169 died. On the other hand the deaths from ordinary diseases of the respiratory organs have gone on increasing in number, viz,—1st period 280, 2nd period 291, the last ten years 343. The deaths from heart disease are singularly equal in each of the three periods, viz,—1st, 155, 2nd, 165, 3rd period, 169. It is a prevalent idea that cancerous disease is increasing considerably in frequency, this is not borne out to any extent by the thirty years record, the numbers in the three periods being respectively 63, 72, and 68.

There is one point more worth notice, and this is that during the thirty years, the difference in the death-rate is entirely due to the diminution in the number of deaths from Zymotic diseases and Phthisis combined. Subtracting these from the years' total in each ten years period, they give for the three periods an almost equal total of 1694, 1668, and 1657 respectively as deaths from all other causes.

In conclusion, I may remind you that it was in January, 1873, that the Improvement Commission gave place to the Urban Sanitary Authority, since that date nearly the whole of the 9½ miles of sewerage have been reconstructed, and an equal amount of house connections, and all the other Sanitary work done which together have so beneficially influenced the health of the City.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours truly,

EDW. SHARP.

ABSTRACT OF DEATHS in Three Periods of 10 Years: 1866-75, 1876-85, 1886-95.
1866-75.

	1866	1867	1868	1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	TOTAL.	Average per annum
Small-pox ... ..	..	...	...	...	...	...	14	56	...	...	70	7.0
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	1	22	6	42	..	5	2	...	2	80	8.0
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	...	...	..	2	...	..	...	2	10	5	19	1.9
Measles	2	...	...	15	2	..	...	1	6	2	28	2.8
Whooping Cough	5	14	2	8	1	...	7	6	13	...	56	5.6
Typhoid Fever	7	4	9	17	18	4	5	7	18	12	101	10.1
Diarrhoea	8	13	7	8	11	7	9	7	8	17	95	9.5
Deaths from 7 chief Zymotic diseases	22	32	40	56	74	11	40	79	55	38	449	44.9
Pulmonary Diseases	28	25	26	39	44	23	22	25	33	26	291	29.1
Phthisis	21	32	38	23	32	33	28	12	22	27	268	26.8
Heart Disease	11	18	14	19	24	16	15	15	12	11	155	15.5
Cancer	3	8	4	7	7	6	8	3	10	7	63	6.3
Total number of deaths in year ...	218	246	248	271	336	191	256	264	202	179	2411	241.1

The 1871 Census gave an Urban Population of 10,903. This would give an annual death-rate during the ten years of 22.11 per 1000, and a Zymotic rate of 4.11 per 1000.

ABSTRACT OF DEATHS occurring during the Ten Years, 1876—1885.

	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	TOTAL	Average per annum
Small-pox .. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	23	...	...	...	1	...	14	...	2	2	42	4.2
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	3	...	1	1	...	12	6	..	...	1	24	2.4
Measles .. ...	...	1	12	1	...	...	10	..	..	...	24	2.4
Whooping Cough	2	1	52	...	7	...	9	...	15	...	86	8.6
Typhoid Fever	5	2	10	...	6	10	4	...	8	5	50	5.0
Diarrhoea	9	2	14	...	11	2	1	12	8	4	63	6.3
Deaths from 7 chief Zymotic diseases	42	6	89	2	25	24	44	12	33	12	289	28.9
Pulmonary Diseases	30	25	35	33	27	21	35	34	26	14	280	28.0
Phthisis	21	14	31	22	15	15	29	29	27	29	232	23.2
Heart Disease	20	9	13	14	12	18	23	19	13	24	165	16.5
Cancer	5	9	7	8	5	6	5	9	12	6	72	7.2
Total number of deaths in year ...	236	158	296	193	197	208	244	220	250	187	2189	218.9

The 1881 Census gave an Urban population of 10,613. This would give an annual death-rate during the ten years of 20.62 per 1000, and a Zymotic death-rate of 2.72 per 1000.

ABSTRACT OF DEATHS occurring during the Years 1886—1895.

	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	TOTAL.	Average per annum
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Group	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	6	·6
Measles	2	...	...	...	15	...	...	1	...	...	18	1 8
Whooping Cough	7	...	...	...	43	...	...	5	4	1	60	6·0
Typhoid Fever	2	2	...	1	8	...	3	2	...	1	19	1·9
Diarrhœa	9	8	1	...	1	2	11	8	2	6	48	4·8
Deaths from 7 chief Zymotic diseases	21	11	1	1	67	3	15	17	7	8	151	15·1
Pulmonary Diseases	40	27	22	34	39	38	35	23	50	35	343	34·3
Phthisis	19	18	13	17	19	17	21	13	20	12	169	16·9
Heart Disease	26	18	13	16	21	20	13	7	12	18	164	16·4
Cancer	6	6	5	8	8	6	8	10	5	6	68	6·8
Total number of deaths in year ...	224	183	158	191	270	195	206	161	194	195	1977	197·7

The 1891 Census gave an Urban population of 11,131. This would give an annual death-rate during the ten years of 17·76 per 1000, and a Zymotic death-rate of 1·35 per 1000.

Table of DEATHS during the Year 1896, in the Truro Urban Sanitary District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these statistics ; public institu- tions being shown as separate localities.	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.								MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																					
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.																							
									(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	Under 5 upwds.	Under 5 upwds.	Under 5 upwds.	Under 5 upwds.	Under 5 upwds.	Under 5 upwds.								
																							1	2	3	4	5	FEVERS.		
									Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea & Dysentery	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	TOTAL.	
(a)																														
PARISH OF KENWYN	79	15	9	1	1	21	32	Under 5 upwds.			1										4	2				3	1		14	24
" ST. MARY	43	8	2	2	1	18	12	Under 5 upwds.	1														2			2			32	55
" ST. PAUL	41	13	4	...	2	5	17	Under 5 upwds.													1	2				4			5	10
ROYAL CORNWALL INFIRMARY.	4	...	1	1	...	1	1	Under 5 upwds.																		3	2		10	17
TOTALS	167	36	16	4	4	43	62	Under 5 upwds.	1		1										5	6				9	1		29	51
											1														10	24	13		64	112

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto.								Under 5 upwds.																						
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.	12	.....	1	1	.....	8	2	Under 5 upwds.																				1	.....	1

*The heading of column 19 is left blank for the insertion of Influenza or any other disease which it may be thought desirable to record.

Table of POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1896, in the Truro Urban Sanitary District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics ; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.													NUMBER OF SICK CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
	Census 1891.	(c) Estimated to middle of 1896			(d)	(e)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District—Yes. Since when—*November 11th, 1899.* Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the columns with blank headings the names of any that are notifiable in the District, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. *Infectious Diseases Hospital—Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated.*

CORNWALL COUNTY COUNCIL.

Sanitary Committee.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S PRELIMINARY FORM

FOR THE AREA EMBRACED IN THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF TRURO.

It is particularly desired that this may be filled up and returned to Mr. TREVAIL before the **Fifteenth** day of January, and the Medical Officer's Annual Report by the **Fifteenth** day of February, 1897, for the convenience of tabulation, &c.

Name of M.O.H., and chief degree, EDWARD SHARP, M.R.C.S. and L.S.A.

Postal Address—18, LEMON STREET, TRURO.

Date of original appointment as M.O.H. for the District?—1876. For life or temporary?—Annual.

Salary, £50. | Is it approved by Local Government Board? } YES. | How much of it is paid by the County Council?

YEAR 1896.

Births Registered.			Deaths Registered.			
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Natural Increase
130	133	263	76	91	167	= 96
Birth Rate per annum per 1,000 of pop. 23.6			Death Rate ditto 15.0			
Deaths under 1 year old per 1,000 births } 136			Zymotic Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population, taken as per Monthly Returns } 1.1			

Diseases prevalent during the year?—None.

Period? What action taken?

Hospital Accommodation?—Infectious Diseases Hospital. No of Beds?—8

At what places in the District is Isolation accommodation most needed?

Is Notification Act in force? } YES Total cases notified during 1896? } 34 Rate per 1,000 of pop. } 3.05 Total Cost in Fees? } £4 5 0

Schools closed on account of Epidemic prevalence of disease?

Note.—It is particularly requested that the M.O.H. will kindly give on a separate sheet of foolscap, a resume of all permanent Sanitary improvements carried out by the Authority in all parts of its District during the past five years, with the approximate total cost of the same.

District References should be made to the particular parishes where possible.

This Form is issued in Triplicate, one copy is to be retained by the Medical Officer, one should be returned to me before the 15th of January, and the other sent to the Clerk of the Local Sanitary Authority.

SILVANUS TREVAIL,
CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE.

Summary of Medical Officer's Report for 1896—continued.

No.	SUBJECT.	REMARKS.
1	What systematic Inspection have you made during 1896, under Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, Public Health Act, and other Statutes?	See Annual Report.
2	General conditions of House Accommodation?	Generally good.
3	Is it adequate to the reasonable requirements of the Working Classes of the District?	Apparently so.
4	Give particulars respecting overcrowding if any?	Two complaints—not sustained on investigation.
5	What houses were closed under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890?	None.
6	Houses repaired and put into proper Sanitary condition by the owners after notice from the Authority? Any refusals?	None.
7	Special Sanitary Work done by the Authority during year, with total expenditure upon each?	Filling in Moyle's Creek—Provision of ventilating shafts—See Surveyor's Report.
8	(a) Drainage	Main drainage almost complete.
9	(b) Water Supply	As before.
10	(c) Excrement Disposal	As before—See Special Report.
11	(d) Scavenging	Very fair.
12	(e) Sewage Disposal... ..	Nearly entirely into river.
13	What special Works are now in contemplation?	Completion of system of drainage and disposal of sewage.
14	What special Sanitary Work recommended by the M.O.H. in previous years remained undone in 1896?	Construction of Intercepting Sewer—Removal of condemned houses at the bottom of Mitchell Hill—Remedying insanitary condition of Carlyon's Cottages in City Road.
15	Number of Certificates of Water Supply to New Dwelling Houses?	
16	Name the places in the District without an adequate and accessible supply of pure drinking water. ...	District well supplied with water—question of purity worth consideration.
17	Owners of Water-works where there are any, and any complaint against the supply?	Truro Water Works Company. No.
18	Burial Grounds and Mortuaries: (a) State of the Parish Churchyard? (b) Other Cemeteries? Give the names and your suggestions.	As last year.

Summary of Medical Officer's Report, 1896.—continued

No.	SUBJECT.	REMARKS.
19	Have you inspected Rail-way Station Closets, Urinals, &c., and condition?	No.
20	Bakehouses Are they Registered?	Yes.
21	Slaughter-houses Are they Registered?	Yes.
22	Dairies, Cowsheds, & Milk-shops. Are they registered and regularly inspected under the L.G.B. orders of 1885 and 1886?	Yes.
23	Common Lodging Houses. Are they registered?	Yes.
24	Offensive Trades Any Complaints?	No.
25	Any remarks respecting Vaccination Non-Vaccinated... .. Prosecutions?	A great many vaccinations during year from fear of small pox. The Vaccination Act practically in abeyance. The Guardians refuse to enforce it.
26	Sale of Food and Drugs' Act (a) Number of Samples purchased for Analysis (b) Prosecutions Any Recommendation?	See Annual Report.
27	Seizures of Food unfit for human consumption? Prosecutions?	None.
28	What special Drainage or other Sanitary work do you recommend to be done in your District?	Systematic investigation of drains connecting houses with main sewer, and improvement of paving around house-traps. Construction of intercepting sewer and disposal of sewage.
29	River Pollution, where? (a) By Sewage (b) Mine Refuse (c) China Clay Refuse (d) Other Causes Complaints, and by whom?	Rivers Allen and Kenwyn. River Ruan. At West Bridge again, by occupiers there.
30	Wells condemned, and reasons why?	None.
31	What Special Precautions taken against Cholera during 1896? Any Recommendations for 1897?	None. Usual clean up in summer, and disinfection periodically of sewers.
32	What Disinfectants supplied free by the Authority?	Jeye's Carbolic Acid, Sanitas, Lime, Corrosive Sublimate in Solution.
33	Name the Elementary Schools the sanitary arrangements of which you have found defective during the year?	
34	Does your Authority undertake the removal of House Refuse, &c., under the 42nd Sec. of the Public Health Act, 1876?	Yes.
35	Enumerate subjects of such Bye-laws as may be in existence in your District	
36	Any proceedings taken under Bye-laws during the year?	

Summary of Medical Officer's Report for 1896- continued.

No.	SUBJECT.	REMARKS.
37	Any Special Report required by Local Government Board during the year?	No.
38	Total number of intermediate and other Reports made by the M.O.H. during the year?	Monthly Reports.
39	Have copies of these been supplied to the County Council as per L.G.B. Order of 23rd March, 1891?	Yes.
40	Has the Sanitary Authority adopted or refused? (a) The Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889.	Adopted.
41	(b) The Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.	Adopted.
42	(c) The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.	Adopted.
43	Have any Bye-laws been made by your Authority under these or other Acts?	No information.
44	Is there any Isolation Hospital, or have any steps been taken to establish one?	Yes.
45	Is there any Disinfecting Apparatus?	No.
46	Is the M.O.H.'s Annual Report printed and a copy supplied to every member of the Authority?	Yes.

47. Return of Cases of Infectious Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year ending December 31st, 1896.

	Small Pox.	Diphtheria and Memb. Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	FEVFRS.			Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhœa and Dysentery.	Influenza.	TOTAL.
					Typhoid.	Continued	Puerperal.					
Notified Cases.	2	2	8	13	9							34
Average Rate per 1,000 pop.	·16	·16	·71	1·16	8							3·05
Deaths.		1		1					5	6		13
Average Rate per 1,000 pop.		·08		·08								1·1

(Signed) **EDWARD SHARP,**

Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Sanitary District of Truro.

Dated 15th January, 1897.

CORNWALL COUNTY COUNCIL.

Sanitary Committee.

RÉSUMÉ of the Sanitary Work accomplished by the Urban District Council of Truro during the Five Years ending 31st December, 1896.

(It may possibly assist the officer to suggest the following headings for such report with the approximate expenditure made upon each during the five years).

- 1.—Drainage.
- 2.—Water Supply.
- 3.—Excrement Disposal.
- 4.—Street and other Scavenging.
- 5.—Sewage Disposal.
- 6.—Public W.C.'s and Urinals.
- 7.—Disinfection and cleansing of insanitary premises.
- 8.—Provision of Mortuaries or Burial Grounds.
- 9.—Public Slaughter Houses, Wash Houses, and Baths.
- 10.—Expenses, if any, under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.
- 11.—Total estimated approximate expenditure incurred during the five years upon works of a *Special* as contra-distinguished from those of the ordinary routine character.

It will be a great convenience for this Report to be in my hands by the 15th January instant.

SILVANUS TREVAIL,

Truro, 2nd January, 1897.

Chairman.

Report :

Truro, 22nd January, 1897.

In reply to the above enquiries I beg to state as follows :

1.—**Drainage.** During the last five years the completion of the main drainage has been carried out. Main sewers have been altered to pipe sewers, and new ones laid to the extent of 3,800 feet, at a cost of £330. Tributary drains laid amounting to 9,700 feet. 217 privy pits have been abolished and new water or pan closets substituted. Very few privy pits are now remaining. 50 ventilation shafts have been erected at a cost of £88.

2.—**Water Supply.** To my annual report for 1895 was appended a special report on the water supply of the City (dated 2nd January, 1894), a printed copy of which is attached to this. Since then measures have been taken to protect and prevent pollution of the pumps at Moresk Road, Mitchell Hill, and Pydar Street, and a new one sunk in the Moor field at a total cost of £80. I may add that since that report, I cannot say that there have been any cases of illness directly attributable to polluted water.

3.—**Excrement Disposal.** Owing to the substitution of water and pan closets for privies, nearly the whole of the excreta of this city finds its way to the river, of course increasing its pollution.

4.—**Street and other Scavenging.** This has been very well carried out. During the five years street and house refuse has been removed amounting to 23,630 tons, at a cost of £3,550.

5.—**Sewage Disposal.** Same as No. 3 (excrement disposal) in this Urban district.

6.—**Public W.C.'s and Urinals.** In my 1896 report I suggested that in addition to the four urinals then constructed, some others in suitable positions should be added. The Sanitary Authority have sanctioned three of these, and they are now being erected, or shortly will be; these with alterations in addition, will cost about £200.

7.—**Disinfection & Cleansing of Insanitary premises.** Disinfection has been carried out where Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Small Pox cases have occurred. One insanitary house has been cleansed. I understand that shortly the condemned houses at the bottom of Mitchell Hill will be demolished.

8.—**Provision of Mortuaries or Burial Grounds.** The Public Mortuary at the Infectious Diseases Hospital has recently been put in better order. A new Cemetery, with suitable buildings, has been provided at a cost of £2,900.

9.—**Public Slaughter Houses, Wash-houses, & Baths.** No Public Slaughter Houses. To my report for 1894 was added a special report on the condition of six of the slaughter houses then in use. I considered all of them in a more or less unsatisfactory state (since then two of them have ceased to be used for this purpose), nothing has been done to amend the condition of the others. I also stated that in many ways it would be a great advantage if these slaughter houses could be removed outside the inhabited part of the district. There are no public wash-houses or baths under the control of the Sanitary Authority.

10.—**Expenses, if any, under the Housing the Working Classes Act, 1890.** None that I am aware of. This subject has, I believe, been under consideration, but so far with no result.

11.—**Total estimated approximate expenditure.** To this question the answer will probably be given by the Surveyor.

In conclusion, I have to say that I am indebted to Mr. W. Clemens for the statistics of amount of work done and expenditure herein given.

EDWARD SHARP,

Medical Officer of Health.

